COORDINATE INPUT APPARATUS, COORDINATE INPUT METHOD AND COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING MEDIUM INCLUDING A COORDINATE INPUT CONTROL PROGRAM RECORDED THEREIN

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a coordinate input apparatus applied to portable information processing terminals such as an electronic pocketbook comprising a plurality of display integrated tablets in each of which a display and an input device are integrated, a coordinate input method, and a computer-readable recording medium including a coordinate input control program recorded therein.

2. Description of the Related Art

Hitherto, an apparatus such as an electronic pocketbook having independent two screens is arranged such that, when it comprises display integrated tablets and adopts a pen input apparatus, it can specify a move or the like within one screen. However, in the case of moving to the other screen, a pen must be separated from the one screen once, so that it is judged that an end of move has been specified at the moment when the pen is separated from the screen.

Therefore, it has been necessary to specify a region of one screen at first to execute operations such as copying and moving and then to specify a region of the other screen to execute respective operations in specifying the regions ranging across the two screens, thus obliging such very cumbersome operations.

In order to solve such problem, Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication JP-A 6-44001(1994) discloses an apparatus for detecting a moving direction and a moving speed of an icon **21** displayed on display screens **14***a* and **14***b* of an apparatus as shown in FIG. **9** and for allowing the icon **21** to move between the display screens **14***a* and **14***b* by moving it in the moving direction further by a predetermined distance R when the moving speed of the icon is faster than a predetermined speed at the moment when the specification of the move is finished, i.e. a pen **11***a* is separated from the icon **21** (the face of a tablet).

However, although the invention disclosed in JP-A 6-44001(1994) allows the icon or a window frame to move across the two screens, it is unable to operate the pen continuously from one screen to the next screen in processing information which is displayed across the two screens and continues from one screen to the next screen such as a selection of a range.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide a coordinate input apparatus which allows to input coordinate information of a plurality of input faces continuously among the plurality of input faces by specifying coordinate positions, a method for inputting a coordinate and a computer-readable recording medium including a coordinate input control program recorded therein.

In a first aspect of the invention, a coordinate input apparatus for inputting coordinate information of a plurality of input faces by specifying coordinate positions comprises:

time measuring means for measuring a time from an end of a first input on a first input face to a start of a second input on a second input face;

judging means for judging whether or not the time measured by the time measuring means is within a predetermined time; and

input control means for recognizing the first and second inputs as one continuous input when the time is judged to be within the predetermined time by the judging means.

In a second aspect of the invention, a coordinate input apparatus for inputting coordinate information of a plurality of input faces by specifying coordinate positions comprises:

judging means for judging whether or not a position where a first input has been ended on a first input face is within a predetermined region; and

input control means for recognizing the first input and a second input following the first input, on a second input face as one continuous input when the position where the first input has been ended is determined to be within the predetermined region by the judging means.

In a third aspect of the invention, a coordinate input method for inputting coordinate information of a plurality of input faces by specifying coordinate positions comprises the steps of:

measuring a time from an end of a first input on a first input face to a start of a second input on a second input face;

judging whether or not the time measured at the time measuring step is within a predetermined time; and

controlling the input by recognizing the first and second inputs as one continuous input when the time is judged to be within the predetermined time at the judging step.

In a fourth aspect of the invention, a coordinate input method for inputting coordinate information of a plurality of input faces by specifying coordinate positions comprises the steps of:

judging whether or not a position where a first input has been ended on a first input face is within a predetermined region; and

controlling the input by recognizing the first input and a second input following the first input, on a second input face as one continuous input when the position where the first input has been ended is determined to be within the predetermined region at the judging step.

In a fifth aspect of the invention, a computer-readable recording medium comprising a coordinate input control program recorded therein for causing a computer in which coordinate information of a plurality of input faces can be inputted by specifying coordinate positions, to execute:

a time measuring procedure of measuring a time from an end of a first input on a first input face to a start of a second input on a second input face;

a judging procedure of judging whether or not the time measured in the time measuring procedure is within a predetermined time; and

an input controlling procedure of controlling the input by recognizing the first and second inputs as one continuous input when the time is judged to be within the predetermined time in the judging procedure.

In a sixth aspect of the invention, a computer-readable recording medium including a coordinate input control program recorded therein for causing a computer in which coordinate information of a plurality of input faces can be inputted by specifying coordinate positions, to execute: